

It's easy for everyone to make a connection with DCR

For information on Stewardship Virginia, water quality programs or land management, call DCR toll-free at 1-877-42WATER.

For a free color guide on your Virginia State Parks and Natural Area Preserves or to make a reservation at a state park, call DCR toll-free at 1-800-933-PARK.

If you have questions, suggestions or concerns about any of DCR's programs, please contact:

Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation
203 Governor Street, Suite 213
Richmond, VA 23219
(804) 786-1712
pco@dcr.virginia.gov



Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation

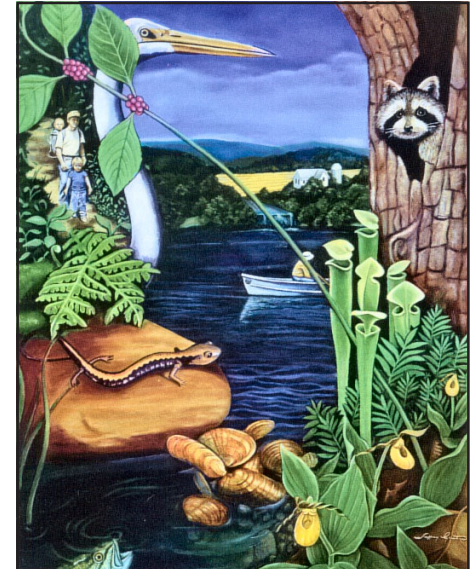
State Parks • Soil & Water Conservation • Natural Heritage
Chesapeake Bay Local Assistance • Land Conservation
Outdoor Recreation Planning • Dam Safety & Floodplains

www.dcr.virginia.gov



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Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation



- Managing Virginia's award winning state parks
- Improving Virginia's soil and water quality
- Protecting the state's natural areas and important species
- Protecting the public through dam safety and floodplain management
- Planning Virginia's outdoor recreation
- Conserving our land and open spaces
- Implementing the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act

Conserving our soil and water resources

Everyone has an important role to play in cleaning up the state's waters. Runoff from yards, streets, parking lots, farm fields and construction sites is the leading source of water pollution in the state. This runoff is known as nonpoint source pollution. As the state's designated lead nonpoint source pollution prevention agency, DCR works with:

- *Local governments on stormwater management and erosion and sediment control programs*
- *Soil and water conservation districts to help farmers install conservation best management practices*
- *Citizens by providing information on practices around the house that keep pollutants from reaching nearby streams*
- *Citizens on ways to restore the Chesapeake Bay and Virginia's rivers*

DCR also works with eastern Virginia localities and developers in implementing the Chesapeake Bay Preservation Act. The act provides a comprehensive approach to addressing nonpoint source pollution resulting from the use, development and redevelopment of land within the eastern portion of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. DCR works with local governments to enhance land development tools that enable development while preventing further degradation of water quality.

Protecting life and property through dam safety and floodplain management

Whether it is assisting local governments with floodplain zoning ordinances, explaining flood insurance or certifying



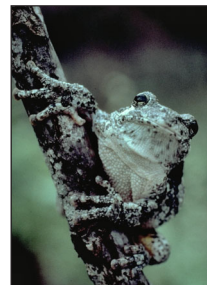
the structural integrity of dams, DCR staff helps reduce flooding potential to protect the Commonwealth's citizens and their property, and prevent destruction and economic loss. Figures since the 1950s indicate Virginia has experienced about \$400 million in flood damages each decade. Nearly 1,300 dams, mostly owned by individuals or governments, are regulated in Virginia. DCR engineers certify their safety and integrity.



Exploring Virginia's natural heritage and outdoor resources in our state parks and natural area preserves

DCR manages the Virginia State Park system with a state park within an hour's drive of every Virginian. These state parks offer modern facilities and friendly staff that complement the state's most beautiful scenery. Virginia's state parks have been recognized as the best in the country, winning the coveted Gold Medal Award for park management. Currently 34 state parks attract millions of families, school groups and tourists each year, providing access to the many landscapes that make up Virginia. More new parks are on the horizon. Plus, new cabins, campgrounds and other facilities that help our visitors explore and enjoy the outdoors are currently being built.

More than 40 different natural area preserves are also managed by DCR to protect some of the state's most significant areas. These preserves are home to rare and endangered species



and significant natural communities. DCR also works with other public and private landowners to identify and protect natural heritage resources throughout the state.

Assisting in land conservation

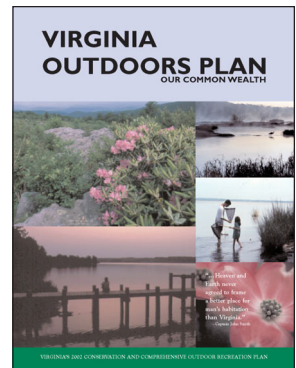
Land conservation preserves Virginia's heritage, offers recreational opportunity, and improves water quality, wildlife and quality of life. DCR is one of many organizations working to conserve the landscapes of Virginia. In addition to managing our own lands, DCR helps the state's growing number of land trusts by providing a central repository, an inventory of protected lands and clearinghouse. The agency assists landowners, land trusts and local governments with:

- *Land trust contact information*
- *Information on conservation easements and other land protection tools*
- *Grant opportunities*
- *Reference materials such as federal and state tax incentives and estate laws*

Planning for Virginia's Future: The Virginia Outdoors Plan

DCR authors the statewide comprehensive land planning, conservation and recreation document, identifying:

- *Outdoor recreation needs, issues and priorities*
- *Models for multi-purpose land use and sustainable development*
- *Long term recommendations on both state and planning district levels.*



Making a difference

Stewardship Virginia is a statewide campaign to help citizens and groups connect with Virginia's outdoors by participating in stewardship activities that make a difference. People from all walks of life can contact DCR to learn more about this spring and fall campaign and Adopt-a-Stream, plant trees, restore a stream bank or improve a trail.